

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 03644 01 OF 04 131114Z

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ACTION SPM-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 EB-11 AGR-20

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20 TRSE-00 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5815

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 TUNIS 3644/1

GENEVA FOR CLAXTON, S/PM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SPOP

SUBJ: REVIEW OF POPULATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

REF: STATE 112325

1. FOLLOWING ARE COUNTRY TEAM RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS
POSED IN REFTEL IN SAME NUMERICAL AND ALPHABETICAL
ORDER THEY WERE POSED IN REFTEL.

2. A. (1) NEAR TERM DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS FOR TUNISIA
APPEAR BRIGHT. ECONOMY HAS ENJOYED AN IMPROVED GROWTH
RATE FOR PAST FOUR YEARS
AND 1973 SAW SUBSTANTIAL
INCREASES IN PRICES FOR IMPORTANT
TUNISIAN EXPORT
COMMODITIES OF PHOSPHATES AND OIL. GOVT IS MAKING EFFORT
TO INCREASE CEREAL AND OTHER FOOD OUTPUT AND HAS HAD SOME
SUCCESS OVER PAST THREE YEARS OWING TO INCREASED USE OF
FERTILIZER, NEW SEEDS AND IMPROVED FARMING TECHNIQUES.
NONETHELESS, MUCH NEEDS TO BE DONE TO STIMULATE FARMERS
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PAGE 02 TUNIS 03644 01 OF 04 131114Z

TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION TO ACHIEVE DRAMATIC RESULTS

WHICH EXPERTS BELIEVE ARE POSSIBLE. GOT HAS COMMITMENT TO FAMILY PLANNING AS NATIONAL POLICY AND HAS ESTABLISHED A NATIONAL PROGRAM WHICH HAS MADE ERRATIC BUT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS. CONVERGENCE OF INCREASED POPULATION AND DWINDLING OR SLOWER-GROWING FOOD SUPPLY CAN PROBABLY BE AVOIDED BY

TUNISIA FOR REST OF DECADE IF ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS DO NOT DRASTICALLY CURTAIL FOOD PRODUCTION. BUT AS WATER-POOR COUNTRY, TUNISIA UNLIKELY BE ABLE CONTINUE INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION TO MATCH POPULATION GROWTH. AFTER 1980, IF FP PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED TO RURAL AREAS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO REDUCE POPULATION GROWTH RATE SIGNIFICANTLY AND IF EFFORTS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION -- PRIMARILY CEREALS -- ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL, THEN SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITHIN TUNISIA ARE LIKELY. TUNISIA, POPULATION (5.6 MILLION) WILL DOUBLE BY 1995 IF GROWTH CONTINUES AT CURRENT RATE. TUNISIAN DEVELOPMENT WILL BE SET BACK AS RESOURCES ARE DIVERTED FROM EXPANSION OF ECONOMY TO MERELY SUSTAINING LIFE. IN THE NEAR TERM AND MORE SO IN LONG TERM, TUNISIA WILL BE FACED WITH DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT. PRESENT POPULATION IS YOUNG AND GETTING YOUNGER WITH 56 PERCENT CURRENTLY UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE AND 42 PERCENT UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE. RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION FURTHER EXACERBATES PROBLEM THROUGH CONCENTRATION OF UNEMPLOYED IN CITIES. GOT COMMITMENT TO UNIVERSAL EDUCATION HAS RAISED EXPECTATIONS WHICH MAY BE DIFFICULT TO MEET. UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATED AT 15 PERCENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT IS EVEN HIGHER. GOT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL AT MEETING AND EVEN EXCEEDING EMPLOYMENT GOALS FOR PAST TWO YEARS. IN 1973, GOT ESTIMATED THAT THERE WERE 40,000 MALE AND 12,200 FEMALE NEW ENTRANTS TO EMPLOYMENT MARKET AND THAT 35,500 NEW JOBS WERE CREATED AND 14,600 WORKERS EMIGRATED TO EUROPE AND LIBYA. THUS, ONLY 2,100 WERE ADDED TO UNEMPLOYMENT ROLLS. WHETHER CURRENT PERFORMANCE THIS RESPECT CAN BE CONTINUED OR IMPROVED DEPENDS ON: DEMAND FOR TUNISIAN WORKERS IN EUROPE AND LIBYA, SUCCESS OF EXPORT INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, TOURISM, DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE, SUCCESS OF NEW GOT PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO KEEP PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS (ANIMATION RURALE), AND GENERAL ECONOMIC

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PAGE 03 TUNIS 03644 01 OF 04 131114Z

CONDITIONS BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL.

2.A. (2) TUNISIA HAS BEEN TRADITIONAL RECIPIENT OF US WHEAT AND SOYA OIL, PRIMARILY UNDER TITLE I PROGRAM. IN LAST TWO YEARS DUE TO US SHORTAGES, IMPROVED FINANCIAL AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS POSITION IN TUNISIA AND LARGER DOMESTIC HARVESTS OF CEREALS, NO WHEAT HAS BEEN SOLD TO TUNISIA UNDER TITLE I BUT TUNISIANS HAVE CONTINUED TO

PURCHASE SOME WHEAT IN EUROPE AND US. TUNISIA
IS A MAJOR
PRODUCER OF OLIVE OIL BUT EXPORTS MOST OF ITS CROP AND
IMPORTS VEGETABLE OILS WHICH IT DOES NOT PRODUCE. TUNISIA
WILL REMAIN AN IMPORTANT CUSTOMER FOR US EDIBLE OILS
ESPECIALLY IF FINANCED UNDER THE PL 480 PROGRAM. MOST OF
ITS COMMERCIAL PURCHASES ARE MADE IN EUROPE, BUT
EUROPEAN OIL IS MOSTLY GENERATED FROM US SOYA BEANS
EXPORTED TO EUROPE. TUNISIAN DEMAND SHOULD GROW STEADILY
EVERY YEAR BY SEVERAL THOUSAND TONS. WE SEE NO REASON
TO EXPECT CHANGE IN PRESENT PATTERN OF COMMODITIES

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 03644 02 OF 04 131125Z

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ACTION SPM-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 EB-11 AGR-20 AID-20

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 4 TUNIS 3644/2

PURCHASED. IN THE SHORT RUN, TUNISIA SHOULD BE ABLE
TO PRODUCE AND IMPORT SUFFICIENT WHEAT TO MEET HER
NEEDS IF VITAL PRODUCTION INPUTS ARE AVAILABLE,
PARTICULARLY FERTILIZER, AND IF WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE
FAVORABLE. ALTHOUGH TUNISIA WILL CONTINUE TO PURCHASE
COMMERCIALLY SOME US WHEAT, ACCESS TO THE U.S. MARKET
OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS TO MEET TUNISIA'S SHORTFALL IN
WHEAT PRODUCTION IS NOT LIKELY TO BE VITAL UNLESS A
DROUGHT OCCURS. IMPORTS AT SUBSTANTIAL LEVELS FROM THE
U.S. AND EUROPEAN MARKET WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE
NECESSARY OVER THE LONG TERM. WITH RESPECT TO SOYBEAN
OIL, ANY REDUCTION IN OR LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITIES IN
THE U.S. WILL HAVE A SHARP FINANCIAL AND BALANCE OF
PAYMENTS EFFECT IN TUNISIA. THE GOT COULD, IN CASE OF

WORLD SHORTAGE OF EDIBLE OILS, DIVERT EXPORTS OF OLIVE OIL FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AND PROBABLY MAINTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THAT COMMODITY FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, BUT AT A SEVERE COST IN LOST FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS. THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT TUNISIAN EXPORTS TO US THE CUTTING OFF OF WHICH WOULD CAUSE MATERIAL DAMAGE TO U.S.

2.A.3. TUNISIA HAS HAD FAIRLY REMARKABLE STABILITY RECORD FOR SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN LITTORAL STATE IN 17 YEARS SINCE INDEPENDENCE ACHIEVED. HOWEVER MOST OF THIS HAS BEEN DUE TO SKILLFUL AND CHARISMATIC LEADERSHIP OF BOURGUIBA. ONCE HE IS REMOVED FROM POLITICAL
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PAGE 02 TUNIS 03644 02 OF 04 131125Z

EQUATION, SYSTEM COULD COME UNDER GREAT STRESSES AND STRAINS. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RELATED TO OR EXACERBATED BY POPULATION INCREASES OF PAST TEN YEARS AND THOSE THAT CAN BE PROJECTED COULD LEAD TO POLITICAL INSTABILITY HERE IN SEVERAL WAYS:

A. YOUTH: EDUCATION SYSTEM INCLUDING SOME VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS ALREADY RECEIVING ALMOST 30 PERCENT OF BUDGET. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO INCREASE THIS PERCENTAGE WITHOUT DIVERTING FUNDS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORT. NUMBERS OF YOUTHS OF SCHOOL AGE WILL CONTINUE INCREASE FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. QUALITY OF EDUCATION WILL PROBABLY DROP DUE TO OVERCROWDING, LESS QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND NEED TO PASS DEFICIENT STUDENTS ON TO MAKE PLACE FOR NEW ONES. LIKEWISE GOT WILL HAVE TO MAKE MORE HARD DECISIONS ON LIMITED ACCESS TO HIGHER GRADES AND UNIVERSITY. AT PRESENT GOT ESTIMATES SOME 100,000 STUDENTS INTERRUPT SCHOOLING AFTER EACH ACADEMIC YEAR. MOST HAVE NO SKILLS AND MANY ARE TOO YOUNG TO WORK AT MEANINGFUL JOBS. THIS GROUP OF SEMI-EDUCATED, NON-ELITE WHICH IS EXPECTED TO GROW COULD PROVIDE SHOCK TROOPS FOR REVOLUTIONARY UPRISING AT SOME POINT.

B. AS NOTED ABOVE (2(A)1) GOT IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ITS INABILITY TO PROVIDE JOBS FOR GROWING YOUNG WORK FORCE, ESPECIALLY MALES. ALTHOUGH GOT APPEARS BE MEETING EMPLOYMENT GOALS OF CURRENT FOUR YEAR PLAN, THIS SITUATION MAY NOT CONTINUE AND IN ANY EVENT GOALS NOT DESIGNED TO RESOLVE PROBLEM BUT ONLY TO KEEP IT FROM GETTING WORSE. FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE GOT WILL CONTINUE RELY HEAVILY ON EMIGRATION OF WORKERS. (OF PROJECTED 50,000 NEW MALE WORKERS PER YEAR, 20,090 ARE EXPECTED TO EMIGRATE). TUNISIAN WORKERS IN BOTH FRANCE AND LIBYA ARE EXPOSED TO MORE RADICAL IDEAS THAN AT HOME AND ON THEIR RETURN THEY COULD BE DISRUPTIVE ELEMENT IN WORK FORCE. THIS IS ALREADY PREOCCUPATION FOR GOT AND LABOR LEADERS HERE.

C. DISSATISFIED ELITE: FACT UNIVERSITY GRADUATE
STILL ABLE FIND EMPLOYMENT DOES NOT MEAN THEY NOT DIS-
SATISFIED. MANY JUDGE JOBS WHICH THEIR RECENT PREDECEDES-
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PAGE 03 TUNIS 03644 02 OF 04 131125Z

SORS RECEIVED ON GRADUATION TO BE FAR BETTER AND MORE
LUCRATIVE THAN CAN NOW BE OBTAINED. IT IS THIS GROUP
AND
STUDENT ACTIVISTS WHO COULD PROVIDE NUCLEUS FOR
LEADERSHIP
OF REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT, ESPECIALLY AFTER
BOURGUIBA LEAVES SCENE.

D. OUTSIDE INFLUENCES: TUNISIA'S NEIGHBORS,
PARTICULARLY LIBYA BUT ALSO ALGERIA, KNOWING WEAK-
NESSES IN FABRIC OF TUNISIAN NATIONAL UNITY COULD AT
TIME OF BOURGUIBA'S DEPARTURE MAKE COVERT EFFORT TO
AROUSE STUDENT-WORKER DISCONTENT WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO
INTERNAL CIVIL STRIFE OR ARMY TAKEOVER. WHETHER THIS
WILL HAPPEN DEPENDS ON NUMEROUS FACTORS WHICH NOT
POSSIBLE TO FORESEE AT THIS TIME BUT POTENTIAL THREAT
EXISTS FOR OUTSIDE INFLUENCES TO PLAY ON POPULATION
RELATED FACTORS TO DISRUPT INTERNAL STABILITY.

E. MILITARY: NON-POLITICAL ROLE OF MILITARY IS
SUBJECT TO CHANGE ONCE BOURGUIBA DEPARTS. OLDER OFFICERS
ARE LOYAL TO ESTABLISHMENT, BUT YOUNGER OFFICERS MAY
IDENTIFY MORE WITH CONTEMPORARIES IN OTHER WALKS OF
LIFE. THOSE OFFICERS TOO ARE HELD BACK BY LIMITED

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 03644 03 OF 04 130956Z

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ACTION SPM-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 EB-11 AGR-20 AID-20

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5817

INFO USMI SION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 4 TUNIS 3644/3

OPPORTUNITIES AND RELATIVELY SLOW TURNOVER IN TOP JOBS. THEY MIGHT IN FUTURE SYMPATHIZE OPENLY WITH STUDENT WORKER DEMANDS AS HAS HAPPENED IN OTHER AFRICAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES IN RECENT YEARS.

F. SAFETY VALVES: IN SPITE OF FACTORS NOTED ABOVE GOT DOES HAVE SOME SAFETY VALVES IN SYSTEM WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED REDUCE CHANCES OF SERIOUS INTERNAL DISORDERS. EMIGRATION IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AT SAME PACE OR POSSIBLY EXPAND IN FUTURE IF LIBYA CONTINUES RELY ON TUNISIAN WORKERS FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT. UNEMPLOYED YOUTH MAY BE CHanneled INTO MORE PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES IN NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE (SERVICE CIVIL) WHICH NOW IN PLANNING STAGE. ONE-THIRD OF 20 YEAR OLD MALES NOW CONSCRIPTED EACH YEAR FOR ONE YEAR MILITARY SERVICE. THIS NUMBER AND DURATION COULD BE INCREASED IF GOT WILLING ASSUME POLITICAL RISK AND ECONOMIC COST INVOLVED. IF ECONOMY CONTINUES PROGRESS, AS EXPECTED, GOT SHOULD HAVE FINANCIAL MEANS WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO CREATE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES, PARTICULARLY IF FOREIGN INVESTMENT CONTINUES AT CURRENT RATE. NEVERTHELESS, MUCH WILL DEPEND ON SUCCESS IN DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT PLANS AND
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PAGE 02 TUNIS 03644 03 OF 04 130956Z

PROJECTS COMMENSURATE WITH COUNTRY'S RESOURCES. MAIN BOTTLENECK COULD BE MANPOWER SHORTAGES AT MIDDLE-MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL LEVELS.

B.1. THERE ARE TWO MAIN PROBLEMS. FIRST IS TO SECURE ACCEPTANCE BY POLITICAL AUTHORITIES OF NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING; SECOND IS TO ADVISE THEM ON STEPS NEEDED TO CARRY OUT AN EFFECTIVE NATIONAL PROGRAM. THE FIRST PROBLEM DOES NOT EXIST IN TUNISIA; THE SECOND IS STILL CRITICAL HERE AS ELSEWHERE. WITH REGARD TO THE FIRST PROBLEM, SEVERAL NEW STEPS COULD BE TAKEN: (1) IN CONJUNCTION WITH FAO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES PREPARE AND PUBLICIZE AT HIGHEST LEVELS PERIODIC WORLD BULLETINS IN FOOD/POPULATION BALANCE AND OUTLOOK, (2)

WITH OTHER DONORS BEGIN REVIEW OF POSSIBILITY OF MAKING AID CONTINGENT UPON NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS OR GIVING COUNTRIES WITH SUCH PROGRAMS PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT (BUT ALL DONORS MUST BE ALERT TO FACT THAT USING AID AS LEVER WITH SOCIETIES WHERE FP IS ANATHEMA COULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE), (3) U.S. COULD USE POPULAR MEDIA, ETC., BOTH MOVIES AND TV TO CONVEY POPULATION PROBLEMS TO THIRD WORLD AND TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HIGHLIGHTING WHAT IS IN STORE FOR EVERYONE IF PRESENT TRENDS CONTINUE. ESSENTIAL SUCH EFFORTS BE DRAMATICALLY COMPETITIVE WITH COMMERCIAL FILM. UN COULD TAKE LEAD IN FINANCING SUCH VENTURES IN ITS CURRENT YEAR ON POPULATION. WE UNDERSTAND UN PLANS FINANCE FILM BY TUNISIAN ON PROBLEMS OF INTRODUCING POPULATION CONTROL IN RURAL VILLAGE SEEN THROUGH EYES OF SOCIAL WORKER. THERE ARE MANY OTHER ASPECTS OF PROBLEM THAT COULD BE DRAMATIZED EFFECTIVELY FOR INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES. A REGULARLY SCHEDULED VOA PROGRAM ON POPULATION, SIMILAR TO THE SCIENCE IN ACTION SERIES, COULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.

B.2. PROBLEM OF RECOGNITION BY POLITICAL LEADERS NOT SERIOUS HERE SINCE PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA EARLY IN 1960S SAW PROBLEM AND TOOK POSITIVE ACTION. HIS CONCERN CONTINUES UNABATED. MOST EASILY SENSITIZED LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE MINS PLAN, HEALTH AND EDUCATION AND WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS. MOST DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 TUNIS 03644 03 OF 04 130956Z

RELIGIOUS LEADERS, TRADE UNIONS (OWING TO OUTDATED SOCIALIST THEORIES) AND SUBSISTENCE FARMERS AND LABORERS. LATTER GROUPS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO SHIFT FROM TRADITIONAL CULTURAL VALUES AND FELT NEED FOR SECURITY IN FORM OF CHILDREN. BELIEVE PROGRAMS SHOULD CONCENTRATE FIRST ON EASILY SENSITIZED GROUPS BUT ITS HEAVIEST AND MOST SKILLFUL PERSUASION TECHNIQUES ON LATTER GROUPS. MORE RESEARCH IN BEST WAYS TO BREAK DOWN RESISTANCE OF THESE GROUPS IS NEEDED AND/OR FINDINGS SHOULD BE MORE WIDELY DIFFUSED.

B.3. IN TUNISIA MAIN PROBLEM IN SECURING GREATER ACCEPTANCE OF FAMILY PLANNING AT GRASS ROOTS HAS BEEN FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO UNDERSTAND TECHNICAL STEPS NEEDED TO CARRY OUT PROGRAM. GOVERNMENT HAS TENDED TO BELIEVE REPEATED POLITICAL LEVEL EXHORTATION SUFFICIENT AND HAS SERIOUSLY NEGLECTED EFFORT NEEDED

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 03644 04 OF 04 131148Z

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ACTION SPM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5818

INFO USMISS ON GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 4 TUNIS 3644/4

TO TRAIN MEDICAL AND PARAMEDICAL STAFF AND TO
ORGAINIZE SATISFACTORY HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.
CONSTANT SHIFTS IN TOP LEADERSHIP OF NATIONAL FAMILY
PLANNING PROGRAM SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM. IF
THIS IS A PROBLEM ELSEWHERE AS COUNTRY TEAM SUSPECTS,
ONE CORRECTIVE STEP, AGAIN WITH OTHER DONORS SUCH AS
IBRD, WOULD BE TO PREPARE SOME SOR OF GENERAL GUIDE-
LINE FOR NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS: A SUCCINCT
MANUAL THAT COULD BE GIVEN NATIONAL LEADERS AS BLUE-
PRINT OF COLLECTIVE WISDOM ON HOW TO CARRY OUT NATIONAL
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM. WITH SUCH A MANUAL AS DIS-
CUSSION BASIS, MINISTERS OF HEALTH AND OTHER POLITICAL
LEADERS COULD BE CONVOKED FOR ANNUAL MEETINGS BY UN
TO REVIEW PROCEDURES AND PROGRESS. BRIEF EVALUATIONS
OF EACH NATIONAL PROGRAM AGAINST THE STANDARD CRITERIA
SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF
EACH COUNTRY REGULARLY. SUCH IMPARTIAL, INFORMED PROFESSIONAL
FEEDBACK TO LEADERSHIP ON HOW WELL POLICY IS BEING
CARRIED OUT IS NECESSARY TO ENSURE LEADERSHIP WILL
INSIST ON EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION ITS POLITICAL
DECISIONS. FEEDBACK IS RARE AT PRESENT BECAUSE FOREIGN
TECHNICAL ADVISORS CAN SELDOM REACH TOP POLITICAL
LEADERS WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING THEIR WORKING
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PAGE 02 TUNIS 03644 04 OF 04 131148Z

RELATIONSHIPS IN MINISTRIES.

C.1. US BILATERAL PROGRAM HAS PRODUCED POSITIVE RESULTS IN TUNISIA BUT HAS FACED MANY PROBLEMS, SOME OF WHICH RELATED TO RAPID TURNOVER IN LEADERSHIP OF COUNTERPART AGENCY WITH ACCOMPANYING FREQUENT AND MAJOR STAFF CHANGES. NEVERTHELESS, OUR CURRENT PROGRAM MAY BE MOVING IN RIGHT DIRECTION (SEE TOAID126 OF SEPT 10, 1973 AND FAMILY PLANNING PROP FY 68-77). MAIN THING WE CAN DO IS TRY TO HELP GOT IMPROVE WHAT IT PRESENTLY DOING, PARTICULARLY TO IMPROVE DELIVERY OF PREVENTIVE AS WELL AS SURGICAL MEANS OF FAMILY PLANNING. DELIVERY SYSTEMS NEED TO BE IMPROVED PARTICULARLY IN RURAL AREAS. AT SAME TIME WE NEED TO HELP GOT FIND METHODS TO BREAK DOWN LOCAL RESISTANCE. AUDIO VISUAL TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING DIALECTAL THEATER AND ANIMATED CARTOONS AND COMIC BOOKS NEED TO BE EXPLOITED MORE. ALSO NEED TO DEVELOP GOOD LOCALLY PRODUCED TV AND MOVIE DRAMA FILMS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS POPULATION CONTROL PROBLEMS. MULTILATERIL EFFORTS ARE ALOS NECESSARY, A VITAL PART OF TOTAL APPROACH TO POPULATION PROBLEM. UN (WHO/UNICEF) AND WORLD BANK HAVE MAJOR ROLE TO PLAY AS DO PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS. THEIR OVERALL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, SHOULD BE GEARED TO HELPING MOST THOSE COUNTRIES THAT RECOGNIZE POPULATION PROBLEM AND ARE TRHING DO SOMETHING

TO OVERCOME IT. IN TUNISIA PRIVATE LOCAL EFFORTS ARE NOT LIKELY TO HAVE MUCH SUCCESS DUE TO HEAVY GOT ROLE IN ENTIRE NATIONAL PROGRAM. HOWEVER SEMI-PRIVATE DOCTORS AND PHARMACIES ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN DISPENSING DEVICES AND SHOULD CONTINUE BE ASSISTED PRIVATELY.

C.2. MAIN PROBLEM IN TUNISIA AMONG DONORS IS LACK OF COORDINATION IN THE WIDE RANGE OF MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL POPULATION PROJECTS WHICH EXIST, MANY OF WHICH ARE SMALL. THERE IS LITTLE COORDINATION OF THESE EFFORTS BY THE GOT, WHICH HAS TENDENCY TRY TO KEEP FOREIGN DONORS APART IN HOPES OF GETTING MORE FROM THEM. NEVERTHELESS US SHOULD CONTINUE USE WHAT OPPOR-
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PAGE 03 TUNIS 03644 04 OF 04 131148Z

TUNITIES EXIST THROUGH UN AND WORLD BANK TO BRING CLOSER COLLABORATION AMONG DONORS AND ABOVE ALL GREATER SHARING OF EXPERIENCES. SOME OF SMALL, PILOT PROGRAMS IN TUNISIA HAVE HAD GOOD LOCAL SUCCESS. THESE SHOULD

BE IMITATED ELSEWHERE ON LARGER SCALE. AT SAME TIME
WHEN ALL OR MAJORITY DONORS RECOGNIZE COMMON PROBLEM
OR DEFICIENCY IN GOT PROGRAM THERE SHOULD BE MECHANISM
FOR PRESENTING THIS AT HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOT WITHOUT
UPSETTING OPERATING RELATIONSHIPS OF DONOR AGENCIES
WITH LOCAL COUNTERPARTS. REGULAR DIALOGUES BY KEY
DONOR REPS WITH MIN PLAN AND PRIME MINISTERS'S OFFICE
MIGHT BE BEST MEANS FOR ACCOMPLISHING COORDINATION.
SUCH DIALOGUE DOES NOT NOW EXIST.
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